

HIGHEST PRICES IN THIRTY-FIVE YEARS

Virginia Bright Tobacco Bringing Average of \$20 Per Hundred Pounds.

FOUR TIMES AS MUCH RAISED

Assistant State Agricultural Commissioner Gives Some Interesting Comparisons.

Tobacco planters in the bright belt of Southside Virginia are receiving this season the best prices for their crops in the past thirty-five years, according to John J. Owen, assistant state commissioner of agriculture. While the production has increased fully 400 per cent, the average price has advanced from about \$5 per hundred pounds to the present average of \$20 per hundred pounds. Under the guise of a Thanksgiving hunting trip, Mr. Owen made a tour of the tobacco belt, and has been compiling the statistics in his office in regard to crop and price. As to the comparative prices of bright tobacco and the reasons, Mr. Owen said yesterday:

Jumped From \$5 to \$20.
"In Virginia and North Carolina the average price of tobacco in 1874 was about \$20 per hundred pounds. Since that time tobacco has been declining year by year, until 1905, when the market began to show some improvement in price, going a little higher each year. I believe, from the reports received from various markets that the average price for the 1913 crop will reach the 1874 average price of \$20 per hundred pounds. This is the best average made in thirty-five years. During these years the average price for these fine tobacco now worth \$20 per hundred, has been as low as \$5 per hundred, and remained so for years."

"It may be worthy of note to say that this extremely low price for tobacco was reached in 1895, prior to the time the tobacco trust was publicly known to exist. This argument was used to try to show that the trust had nothing to do with the extremely low prices at that time. Yet many of us know that prior to the year 1895, the men afterwards formed the leading spirits of the trust virtually controlled the market, and undoubtedly had some understanding as to the prices."

"In the face of these facts there has been a wonderful increase in production, especially of the bright types. About eighteen or twenty years ago North Carolina produced about 65,000,000 pounds; this year it will produce 175,000,000 pounds. In Virginia the production has increased about 400 per cent. The city of Danville alone

J.B. Mosby & Co.

Just for Friday

Big bargains all over the house—many that will make suitable Xmas gifts. Hundreds of timely specials for personal use on which you can save a lot of money.

Women's \$20 and \$25 Suits, \$12.98

Cheviots, serges, diagonals and mixtures, mostly in plain tailored effects—some trimmed with velvet; black, navy, brown and taupe; all sizes.

Misses' \$9.98 to \$19.75 Sport Coats, \$5.98

Chinchilla, in plain tan, tan stripes and green; sizes 16 and 18; all new; very stylish.

Linen Centre Pieces---Half Price

We have a number of odd pieces in fancy designs; 18, 20, 24 and 30 inches diameter—somewhat soiled from display.

The original prices were 50c to \$2.50.

Special To-day, 25c to \$1.25

Trimmed Hats---Half Price

Very large assortment, including Atchison Hats and New York Pattern Hats.

is selling on the average of 40,000,000 pounds annually. In South Carolina the tobacco average increased 37 per cent, and 42 per cent in value. That state produced a total of 33,295,561 pounds, ranking third among its crops, and sold some at an average of 23.7 cents per pound. This is remarkable in consideration of the fact that South Carolina just a few years ago started the tobacco industry.

Created Wider Market.
"The question is asked almost everywhere by men interested in tobacco, 'Why are prices so high?' Many reasons are given. While prices are much higher than formerly, they are by no means too high. Only a fair and reasonable profit can be made at present

prices. Land, labor, fertilizer, mules, horses and farm implements have all increased. The tobacco trust, with its brains, energy and unlimited capital, has created, in countries beyond our borders, a growing demand for our crop. It has invested millions of dollars in factories, in machinery and in advertising. It realizes that the production of bright tobacco in the last few years has not increased in proportion to the increased demand for the manufactured article. It was convinced by the signs of times that the farmers do not intend to be hewers of wood and drawers of water for special privileges much longer. It realizes that the new party now in power in Washington is determined to give to

AMUSEMENTS.

Lyric—Keith Vandeville, matinee and night.
Edison—"The Shepherd of the Hills," Colonel Vandeville.
Empire—Pictorial.

Double Triumph for Philharmonic.
Last night's concert given by Richmond's Philharmonic Orchestra resolved itself into a double triumph, for, besides the success achieved by the orchestra, Mrs. Van Riper, the soloist, pleased the large audience in no uncertain manner. Her first number, the "Jesu Song" from Gounod's "Faust," was sung with excellent expression. Mrs. Van Riper has a voice of pleasing quality, and she knows how to use it to the best advantage, so that every shade of expression could be heard even in the farthest corner of the City Auditorium.

In this number the orchestra also accomplished something which it has probably never done before. It accompanied the singer in a manner worthy of much to be praised. The organization, and the manner in which Mr. Baker's direction was followed, proved the real progress this orchestra has made under his guidance. Mrs. Van Riper's second selection formed a pleasing contrast with the "Jesu" song. It was a charming love song by H. Clough Leichter, which displayed the singer's voice to fine advantage. Both numbers were warmly received by the audience, which demanded encore songs after each.

There was no doubt that Richmond is to be congratulated on securing a singer of Mrs. Van Riper's attainments, and the orchestra deserves credit for presenting her under such favorable conditions. The orchestra numbers were, almost without exception, perfectly rendered. The greatest achievement, was undoubtedly the variation in which Mrs. Schumann's "Lieders" were rendered. That an amateur organization of young people can be trained to play this masterpiece as it was played last night is remarkable. There was a sense of attack, a lightness in the more delicate parts, and strength in the contrasts which was more than satisfying.

The ballad songs "La Source" by Debussy, was undoubtedly second in point of interest. It opens with a brilliant, light scarf dance, followed by a dramatic scene, this in turn succeeded by a variation in which Mrs. Schumann's duet songs brilliantly. The third part, a "Gypsy Dance," is oriental in character, and was well played.

The other numbers were also very well done—the selections from "Mikado" and the Swedish Processional March by Scharwenka.

Possibly the best evidence that the Richmond Philharmonic Orchestra is succeeding in its efforts to give the people of Richmond the kind of good music that appeals to the fact that the not unusual occurrence of crowds leaving before the close of the concert was conspicuous by its absence. Practically every person in the large audience stayed to the very end of the last number, and there was a feeling that the music "tasted like more."

Buy a Piano This Christmas

THE GIFT OF ALL GIFTS

Unquestionably the gift that conveys the finest sentiment; one that will give the greatest and most lasting pleasure, is a Piano.

We offer for your selection many of the best instruments made at prices that will suit your purse. The Pianos listed below have been recognized for years as the leading makes in their respective classes, and when you purchase one of these instruments you are assured of the **UTMOST VALUE** it is possible to obtain for the money. Choose from—

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—the piano that every member of the family can play, whether or not they know one note from another. Besides, it is always ready when hand playing is desired. You really get two instruments in one when you purchase a Pianola Player-Piano—the best Player-Piano in the world.

Decide to give a Piano this Christmas, and come to our store and let us show you our magnificent line of instruments. We'll gladly deliver when you say and make the terms of payment to suit you. If you live out of town send for catalogues. We ship Pianos anywhere.

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Oldest Music House in Virginia and North Carolina.

News of Petersburg

The Times-Dispatch Bureau, 5 Bellinbrook Street, (Phone 1185).

Petersburg, Va., December 4.
Petersburg Lodge of Elks will hold its annual memorial service in commemoration of the departed brethren of the order Sunday afternoon in the Academy of Music. An appropriate program has been prepared for the occasion, and the exercises will be presided over by a prominent lawyer of Lynchburg. These annual memorial services are always attended by a great number of people of both sexes.

Interesting Case to be Heard.

In the Police Court to-morrow morning the case of "Dr." William Carter, under arrest for the killing of "Dr." H. H. Cox, both colored and both prominent representatives of their race, will be called for preliminary hearing. Robert Gilliam, Jr., has been retained as counsel for the defendant. The case has caused a great deal of interest among the colored people of the community, because of the prominence of the two men. They were veterans of the patriot struggle, and died not only in Petersburg, but in Richmond and all the counties round about. Carter claims that he shot Cox not knowing at the time who he was, while the latter was attempting to get into his house, in High Pearl Street, at a late hour of the night. The police, however, have been working on another theory, as to the cause of the shooting, and it is reported, have obtained strong evidence to substantiate that theory. Cox was shot with a heavy charge of No. 4 shot from a single-barrel gun, which tore through his breast and vital organs. His death followed quickly, and Carter surrendered himself.

Death of Old Citizen.

Albert Potts, aged seventy-seven years, a well-known citizen and carpenter, died last evening at his home, in Commerce Street, of paralysis, with which he was stricken about a week ago. Mr. Potts moved to Petersburg from Lunenburg about eight years ago, and after the funeral to-morrow morning the body will be taken to Warrenton county for burial. He is survived by two daughters and a son—Misses Mary and Rosa and William Potts.

Petersburg School Exhibit.

Plans are being made to place on public exhibition, the exhibit of the Petersburg public schools, recently displayed during the Educational Conference, in Lynchburg, and which caused so much admiration and favorable comment there. The exhibit presents a complete and remarkable display of the work and methods of the grammar school grades, such as manual training, drawing, English and science. The arrangements are in the hands of Miss Hobbs and Miss Scott, principals, respectively, of the Lee and Jackson Schools.

Meeting of District Committee.

The Petersburg Democratic District Committee, in response to the call of the chairman, will meet at noon to-morrow at the Stratford Hotel. The object is to hear the appeal from the recent action of the Democratic Citizens' Committee in ordering a primary election for the nomination of a candidate for Judge of the Hustings Court, and to pass upon the question of the legal right and authority of the committee to order such election. The appeal from the Citizens' Committee's action was taken by Samuel W. Zimmer, a member, and sent up to Chairman Ellyson, of the State Committee. Mr. Ellyson named the chairman of the District Committee that it is the duty of his committee to learn and decide the appeal, hence the call for the meeting of the latter.

The District Committee is composed of the following five members: Robert Gilliam, Sr., chairman, of Petersburg; N. R. Morris, of Surry; Wash Wynn, of Lunenburg; Taylor Thompson, of Pamunty; and K. T. Hutchinson, of Middleburg. All of the papers and facts in the case will be laid before

the committee, and the appellant will be represented by counsel.

The Democratic Citizens' Committee has been called to meet at the District Committee, that is at 19 o'clock to-morrow morning, at the Chesterfield. As but one aspirant from the judgeship filed notice of his candidacy, the committee will be small.

BLOTCHES COVERED LIMBS AND FEET

With Watery Blisters. Also on Neck and Face. Itched So Could Not Sleep. Used Cuticura Soap and Ointment Six Days. Trouble Left.

19 Roach St., Atlanta, Ga.—"A few months ago I had some kind of skin eruption that spread until my limbs and feet were covered with blotches and watery blisters. It looked like eczema. When the trouble reached my neck and face I was almost driven frantic by the itching. I could not sleep or wear any clothing on the affected parts. I used almost everything without relief. After two months I commenced to use Cuticura Soap and Ointment and after two days I noticed improvement and in six days the trouble left. My skin was fair and smooth again and the eruption never returned."

"My cousin was a sufferer from pimple, known as acne, on his face and seemed to grow worse all the time. I recommended Cuticura Soap and Ointment to him and now his face is smooth for the first time in three years and he owes it all to Cuticura Soap and Ointment." (Signed) Walter Battle, Oct. 7, 1912.

A single hot bath with Cuticura Soap and a gentle anointing with Cuticura Ointment are often sufficient to afford immediate relief from the distressing cases of skin and scalp diseases when all else fails. Cuticura Soap (25c.) and Cuticura Ointment (50c.) are sold everywhere. Liberal sample of each mailed free, with 32-p Skin Book. Address post-card "Cuticura, Dept. T, Boston."

Men who shave and shampoo with Cuticura Soap will find it best for skin and scalp.

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Restored to His Home.

Howard M. Sawyer, a white boy who was taken into custody by the police at a late hour night before last as a runaway, has been restored to his home. The boy told a false story about his ill treatment and frequent whipping by an uncle in Roanoke, which caused him to run off. He told Chief of Police Richard the name and residence of his alleged uncle in Roanoke, and investigation showed that no such person was known there. Confronted with this information the boy told the chief of the truth. His home was with an aunt in South Richmond. This aunt was communicated with, and she came to Petersburg to-day, and took the boy back home. She says the boy has always been kind, obedient, and well behaved, and that he left her home without cause or provocation.

Hand Amputated.

Nathan P. Sawyer, a resident of this city, employed as brakeman on the Norfolk and Western Railway, met with a painful accident this morning at Roanoke. While engaged in coupling cars his left hand was caught and crushed between the couplers. He was brought to the Petersburg Hospital, where it was found necessary to amputate two fingers and half of the hand. The operation was performed by Dr. H. A. Burke.

BANDITS CAUSING REIGN OF TERROR

They Roam Valleys by Night and Hide in Mountains by Day.

Roanoke, Va., December 4.—Roaming the valleys by night and taking to the cover of the mountains by day, living in caves, abandoned huts and in the open, four or five armed desperadoes for the past several weeks have held in terror many citizens of the western end of Roanoke County in the neighborhood of Glenvar, Singer, Lafayette and Sears Crossing. They are yet at large, and it is said have sent word to the outside world that they will not be taken without a struggle. While they have been operating for more than a month and at times have committed depredations in the outskirts of the town of Salem, the county authorities, hoping to lay hands on the offenders, have kept the case more or less under cover.

Definite news of the situation became public in Roanoke to-day through persons who had been to Salem on business and had heard vague tales of the bandits' activities in conversations on street corners and elsewhere. The county authorities, not only remain reticent, but, it is said, some of them are annoyed to the point of desperation by the will-o'-the-whisp outlaws, who commit the boldest robberies and get away.

So far as can be learned, the officers have searched far and wide for the offenders, have scoured the woods by day and night, and have found many clues, but never have been able to sight their quarry.

The band seems to have one favorite means of entering locked buildings. In nearly every case reported to the authorities so far, entrance has been gained with the use of an auger. The boring tool sometimes is used to cut out locks on doors and sometimes to cut sections out of floors or walls. The robbers go about always, and are said to be armed to the teeth with high power rifles and large calibre revolvers. They are well supplied with ammunition, a part of their stolen goods. Reports are circulating that the robbers extended their zone of activity as far west as Elliston last night, where they

had started boring out a lock when they were frightened away by citizens and fled, leaving their auger sticking in the door. The desperadoes also have covered a territory from the vicinity of Air Point, on the south, to the last settlement under Fort Lewis, on the north, west as far as Elliston, and east as far as Salem, in a section of which Glenvar is about the center. A neighborhood, known as "The Bond," in the vicinity of Glenvar, seems to have suffered most, and a store was robbed at Lafayette as late as Tuesday night.

The following list will give some idea of the extent of the robberies to date: Store of W. A. Poff, at Glenvar; store of Bob Givens, near Singer; store on Mountain road, about a mile west of Salem; store of McVey Mercantile Company, near the Norfolk and Western passenger depot in Salem; store of South Salem Supply Company, in South Salem; store of W. A. Garrett, near Fort Lewis, near the Hansbrough Place, store of a man named Wells, at Lafayette; spring house of T. N. Benner, in the "Bond" spring house of Mr. Thomas, in the same neighborhood; Mr. Nichols, in same neighborhood; took away bees and honey; smokehouse of Mrs. Scott, wife of a minister, same neighborhood; took last night the family and in its most supply, dwelling of H. M. Gross, same neighborhood, where the marauders made themselves at home in the kitchen, eating the family's Sunday supply of food.

A week ago last Sunday Sheriff Hatcher got a tip that the trio had established a camp on Fort Lewis Mountain, about three miles west of Salem. With a few assistants he instituted a search, and late in the evening, in an almost inaccessible location near the top of the mountain, he came upon the abode of the desperadoes, which consisted of continued excavations. There the party found a shelving rock forming a retreat larger than an ordinary room. Where one end was open it had been carefully walled up with rock and covered with earth and leaves, so it was not noticeable. Across the front a heavy canvas was stretched, making a safe and comfortable retreat against all kinds of weather. The outlaws were away from home, and the officers easily entered. They found large quantities of the

stolen goods, gloves, overalls, shirts, socks of flour and numerous articles which various persons had reported missing. The desperadoes had also found a bee tree in the mountains, and a log full of honey was in the den. Dead cubs of the improved breed place indicated that the place had not been occupied for some time. Sheriff Hatcher left two members of the party to guard the place during the night, and he came to town to secure additional aid to prosecute the search. However, since they could not make a fire and the weather was extremely cold, the two men came down later, and when the officers got back next morning the den had been visited by the robbers and everything carried away, leaving no trail by which they could be followed. Last Sunday four posses, numbering twenty-one men, scoured the mountains both north and south of Roanoke River, covering an area of many square miles, but without finding any clue to the whereabouts of the band.

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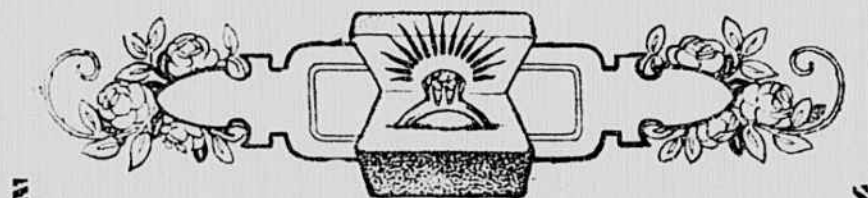
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